

**AMENDMENT TO ABSTRACT**

The abstract is amended to read:

**Abstract**

The invention relates to apparatuses for processing sheet material, such as bank notes. Since a diverting device, located in the transport path, itself has means for transporting even poor-quality sheets through between diverting elements of the diverting device without jamming, and/or a transport monitoring of the ~~{sie}~~ position of the sheets in the transport path is only carried out after traversal of an alignment unit, particularly reliable operation of the processing apparatus with a low probability of jams and malfunctions is possible.